

FLIGHT JACKET

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Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif.

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HMH-466 stays strong by lifting



Two of the three CH-53E Super Stallions from Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 466, Marine Aircraft Group 16, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, fly along the mountains in Southern California Aug. 24. The three aircraft participated in multiple training missions to ensure their mission readiness. FOR RELATED STORY, SEE PAGE 6. Photo by Lance Cpl. George J. Papastrat

MWCS-38 Marines return home

Story and photo by
Lance Cpl. George J. Papastrat
MCAS Miramar Combat Correspondent

More than 190 Marines and sailors from Marine Corps Air Station Miramar and Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, returned home from a seven-month deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The service members, who were from Marine Wing Communications Squadron 38, Marine Air Control Group 38, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, were greeted by hundreds of eager friends and family members, waiting to welcome them home.

"While deployed, things went wonderfully," said Capt. Shelton Richards, Company A commander, MWCS-38, MACG-38, 3rd MAW.

"Our main job was to provide communications in combat zones in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom," explained Richards. "Every single Marine did great and I am proud of them."

"They worked above and beyond,"

Richards said. "I am proud to have served with every single one of them."

While these Marines were working hard in Iraq, so were their family members.

Jessica Durazo, the spouse of Sgt. Daniel Durazo, a radio operator with MWCS-38, trained for Marine Corps boot camp while her husband of almost two years was deployed.

Durazo, a Germany native, explained how she "missed him like crazy."

"I met him while I was in college in Hawaii, I was there from Germany," said Jessica Durazo. "While he was gone I talked to him as much as I possibly could."

In the large group of anxious awaiting people a large sign with the words "Have you seen my mommy?" was seen.

Cpl. Tonya Haddad, a field wireman with MWCS-38, left her daughter with her father, Gary Davis, during her deployment.

"I am extremely proud of Tonya," said Haddad's father. "She amazes me more every day and I am happy to see her home."



Sgt. Daniel Durazo, a radio operator with Marine Wing Communications Squadron 38, Marine Air Control Group 38, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, holds his wife, Jessica, Aug. 28 for the first time in seven months. Durazo returned from a seven-month deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.



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Commanding General
3rd Marine Aircraft Wing



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Tricks you need up - and on, your sleeve

Story by Lance Cpl. Kaitlyn M. Scarboro
MCAS Miramar Combat Correspondent

Commanders were recently upset by the unsatisfactory appearance of Marines wearing flight suits and cover-alls off the flight line. Not only were Marines wearing the uniforms in unauthorized places, but their uniforms were unsightly.

While it takes time and effort to prepare a spotless uniform, many Marines are preoccupied or aren't willing to spend extra hours working on an immaculate uniform. So to ease the pains of preparation, experienced Marines have contributed simple techniques to cut back on time and still display a spotless appearance.

"This is a user-friendly uniform here," said Master Gunnery Sgt. John C. Hood, provost sergeant for the Miramar Provost Marshal's Office. "I call it the lazy-man uniform."

Hood was the former drill master at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego from 1981-1989, setting the example for future Marines. Hood respects the Marine Corps expectation of excellence in work and appearance and still applies some of the more time consuming procedures to his new digital camouflage utility uniform.

"I just wash it, pull it out of the dryer and then hang it up," Hood said. "You don't have to iron this uniform but I always do."

Irish pennants are traditionally removed with scissors but a lighter is a more effective tool in some cases. Fire will singe the ends of a thread so it's less likely to unravel, but be careful not to burn a hole through your uniform. While you can use a lighter for any of your uniforms, snipping might be more appropriate if you have an unsteady hand. Use

scissors on more delicate fabrics – like your service uniform alpha blouse – so you can sew any unexpected snips.

To protect wedding bands from scratching or reflecting in the sun, wrap electric tape around them. When you remove the tape, use butter or cooking oil to get rid of the residue.

Dry cleaning is a hassle and unnecessary expense so save money by personally washing and pressing your service uniforms. Spot treat any stains and then toss your uniform in the washing machine on the delicate cycle, with cold water. Press them while damp and put your shirt in the dryer on low for 15 minutes while you iron your trousers. Flip your trousers inside out, spray starch on the crease area, reverse them and use a low heat setting to iron them according to the measurements required.

Your creases usually stay in place after one washing but to get that sharp Marine-Corps-crisp line, re-iron the old creases into place. Use a low heat and place a light towel over your shirt, to prevent burning and discoloration. You can use paper clips, bobby pins or tape to hold the fold in place while your ironing.

Hanging your service-uniform trousers the right way helps keep the crease fresh and wrinkle-free, but if you don't have a pant-hanger then use two safety pins and a top hanger. Fold your pant legs by the crease; slip the two safety pins through opposite ends of the hem and over the bottom bar of the hanger. Slip the safety pins through the second hem, using the pins to balance the trousers over the hanger.

Tricks of the trade are learned through time and experience. There is always plenty of time to make a good impression, but "working smarter, not harder," is the Marine Corps way.

This Month in Marine Corps History

2 September 1945

The Japanese officially surrendered to the Allies on board the battleship MISSOURI in Tokyo Bay. With Gen. Holland Smith transferred home in July 1945, the senior Marine Corps representative at the historic ceremony was Lt. Gen. Roy S. Geiger, who had succeeded Smith as commanding general, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific.

11 September 1992

Hurricane Iniki devastated the island of Kauai, Hawaii, in one of the worst storms the islands had seen in over a century. Marines of the 1st Marine Brigade based at Kaneohe Bay, spearheaded Operation Garden Sweep, the massive cleanup effort.

20 September 1950

Marines of the 1st Marine Division crossed the Han River along a six-mile beachhead, eight miles northwest of Seoul, Korea. Five days later, the 1st and 5th Marines would attack Seoul and the city would be captured by 27 Sept.

27 September 1944

The American flag was raised over Peleliu, Palau Islands, at the 1st Marine Division Command Post. Although the flag raising symbolized that the island was secured, pockets of determined Japanese defenders continued to fight on. As late as April 21, 1947, 27 Japanese holdouts finally surrendered to the American naval commander on the scene.

30 September 1945

Marines of III Amphibious Corps, commanded by Maj. Gen. Keller E. Rockey, began landing in North China to assist the Chinese Nationalist government in accepting the surrender of Japanese forces and repatriating Japanese soldiers and civilians.

Miramarks

If a Marine is on a hit list for a "B" billet, should they have the choice of which one?



Cpl. Brian A. Cook
Platoon Sergeant
C1SD

"Yes. You don't want a Marine in a job they don't want to do."



Sgt. John H. Crisden
Career Planner
MCAS Miramar

"No. The Marine Corps should stay focused on filling the Marine Corps' needs and not what the individual wants."

Briefs

Out of the Darkness

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention will be having an “Out of the Darkness” suicide prevention walk Oct. 29 in Balboa Park, San Diego. By walking in AFSP’s community walks, you will be walking with thousands of people nationwide to raise money for the program’s vital research and education to prevent suicide and save lives. You will also assist survivors of suicide loss.

For more information contact, <http://www.outofthedarkness.org>.

Mess Hall Hours

The mess hall hours will be changed due to the Labor Day holiday.

The hours for the Gonzales Mess Hall for Sept. 1 - 5 will be 8 to 11 a.m. and 4 to 6 p.m.

The Flight Line Mess Hall will be closed Sept. 1 - 5. Regular meal hours will resume Sept. 6.

Communication workshop

The Environmental Management Department, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar will be hosting the Health and Environmental Risk Communication Workshop. All interested and eligible are encouraged to attend.

This three-day course provides attendees with basic knowledge and tools to effectively communicate risk and risk management issues to stakeholders of diverse interests.

Personnel eligibility includes military and civilian personnel responsible for communicating environmental risk management issues to the public, regulators and/or media stakeholders including remedial project manager.

The course schedule will be Nov. 28 to Nov. 30. For more information, contact 577-1108.

9/11 Freedom Walk

The San Diego America Supports You Freedom Walk is being held on Sept. 11 at 9 a.m. and participants will walk continuously until 11 p.m. in Balboa Park. This year marks the five-year anniversary of the tragic events at the Pentagon, the Twin Towers and Shanksville, Pa. The purpose of the walk is to establish a national tradition to reflect on the lives lost on Sept. 11, renew our commitment to freedom and the values of our country and honor our veterans, past and present. If you want to volunteer at the run, call Aurora at 866 424-5210. Walkers can register <http://www.operationhomefront.net/sandiego>.

Platelet donations priceless for transfusions and NMCS

Story by

Lance Cpl. Kaitlyn M. Scarboro

MCAS Miramar Combat Correspondent

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION MIRAMAR, Calif. — Blood products are in constant demand at any blood collection facility, but Navy Medical Center San Diego’s blood platelet supplies are limited and recent donations have not fulfilled the current need.

Blood platelets are the clotting agent in blood that help close an open injury so it can start the healing process. Platelets are created in the bone marrow and help patients with life-threatening diseases like leukemia and cancer, or injured patients such as burn victims or amputees.

“Because we are a military hospital, we cannot just go out into the community and hold a blood drive,” explained Wendy Morra-Binder, a blood donor recruiter for NMCS. “That is for the American Red Cross and the San Diego Blood Donor Center.”

NMCS can only accept donations from Department of Defense-sponsored personnel, including military service members, base employees and spouses.

Those contributions will go directly back to military members, their family members and DoD employees.

“We supply the Naval hospitals within our area, the ships -- here and out at sea -- and we send blood and blood products overseas to Iraq and Afghanistan,” explained Morra-Binder.

The hospital supplies the blood products needed to support injured troops abroad and protect their families here in San Diego. Whole blood, blood platelets and plasma

donations are collected from and returned to the specific needs of this special community.

Plateletapheresis is the procedure in which platelets are extracted from the blood.

Extracting platelets from six whole blood donations provides enough platelets for one transfusion, when one scheduled apheresis provides the same amount directly

Blood platelet donations must be scheduled and donated at the hospital in a one-and-a-half-hour procedure. The hospital can facilitate 30 donations a week and a personal donation can be made twice a month.

The same general deferrals for whole blood donations apply to platelet donations with the exception of aspirin. Because of the blood thinning agents, aspirin cannot be consumed 72 hours -- and Motrin 24 hours -- prior to donation.

Other factors that disqualify donors included recent tattoos of a year or less, trips to countries prone to malaria, and donors must be 18 years old and weigh at least 110 pounds.

Platelet extraction is quicker and more effective if done directly from the donor. Whole blood and plasma donations are accepted but giving a little extra is not too much for NMCS to ask for when considering the cost of each donation.

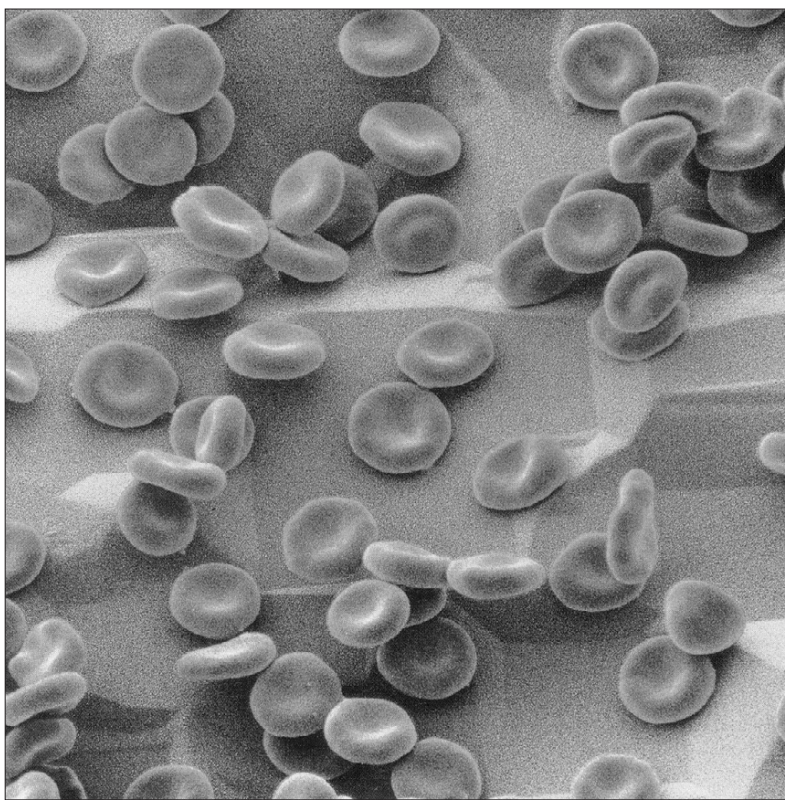
When the hospital’s stored supply runs out, Balboa has to purchase blood products from outside sources.

The cost of blood platelets is \$600 per unit -- the size of one donation -- and patients

requiring platelets average a minimum use of three units.

A heart surgery patient uses six units of platelets, a burn patient uses 20 units of platelets and it would cost the hospital \$72,000 to purchase the 120 units of platelets necessary for one bone marrow transplant.

Through platelet and blood donations, NMCS can save both lives and money. For more information, contact Wendy Morra-Binder at 619-532-6652.



from the blood.

The procedure is lengthy and intricate according to Bennie D. Griffith, NMCS’s supervisor of apheresis. Blood platelets have a five-day shelf-life and extracting them from a donation of whole blood takes several people and must be completed within six hours of the original donation.

“We cannot extract platelets alone,” Griffith said. “When we take platelets, we cannot do it without plasma because the platelets will stick together.”

L.I.N.K.S. connects spouses to Corps

Story and photo by Lance Cpl. Taylor Poulin

MCAS Miramar Combat Correspondent

Marriage is something that is living and breathing. To keep a marriage rich and healthy, you need to cater to it and realize that there is someone else in your life now. Being married in the Marine Corps may not be as easy as it would be in the civilian life. Marines are constantly moving to wherever the Marine Corps needs them. This is just one of many points that lead to bad marriages, which is at the top of the list of stressors for a Marine.

A civilian who is married to a Marine may not know exactly how the Marine Corps works. A spouse, now more than ever, needs some guidance on how to handle their new lifestyle changes.

The Lifestyle, Insight, Networking, Knowledge and Skills program, or L.I.N.K.S., was created for experienced spouses to meet with new spouses and help them become more comfortable with all things Marine.

A L.I.N.K.S. session will enable Marine Corps spouses to learn more of the Marine Corps' history and traditions, moving in the military, deployment and separations, pay issues and base services.

"This program is a good way to meet new friends that go through the same problems," said Nico Duncan, L.I.N.K.S. team leader, and wife of Gunnery Sgt. Patrick A. Duncan, drill master, 2nd Battalion headquarters, Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. "We don't want our Marine's spouses to be mad at the Marine Corps for the problems they have at home."

L.I.N.K.S. started small with only a few wives in Leesburg, Va. These spouses wanted to have a spouse education program in the Marine Corps and took it upon themselves to create these informative sessions.

Ever since the early days, L.I.N.K.S. has been growing into a large group of very informed Marine Corps spouses.

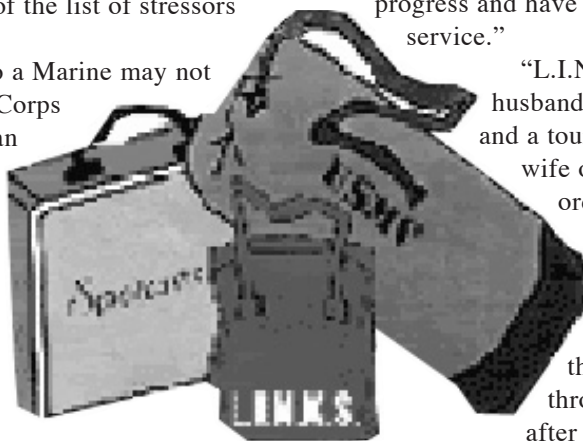
"We try and get the word out of this great group we have going," Duncan said. "We have made great progress and have helped so many couples in the service."

"L.I.N.K.S. has helped me and my husband so much during his enlistment and a tour in Iraq," said Katie Steward, wife of Staff Sgt. Charles Steward, ordnance technician, Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 161, Marine Aircraft Group 16 (Reinforced), 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward). "I thought I would never make it through a tour in Iraq, but now after going to the sessions I feel more comfortable starting a family."

The relationship between the experienced spouse and the new spouse is a key factor that will carry with the new spouse throughout the enlistment. If she, or even he, can connect with someone and inform them on what may happen during an enlistment, they will better prepared for whatever is to come.

Programs such as L.I.N.K.S. help Marines in the end. If a Marine's spouse is happy and can support their loved one it makes for a better enlistment.

For more information on the L.I.N.K.S program here, contact Nico Duncan at 577-6585.



The L.I.N.K.S. sessions are designed to help military spouses understand the Marine Corps and how it works. The members of L.I.N.K.S. also help military spouses when their husband or wife are on a deployment or are currently away.

‘Voice of God’ blesses FM airwaves

Story and photo by Lance Cpl. Brandon L. Roach

3rd MAW Combat Correspondent

AL ASAD, IRAQ – In the solitude of the Western Al Anbar Province of Iraq, Marines here have the option of going to church services or tuning in a radio to “A Voice In the Wilderness,” a religious program brought to service members by the ingenuity of one Naval officer.

Navy Lt. Dan W. Hall, deputy chaplain, Marine Aircraft Group 16 (Reinforced), 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward), brought his knowledge, a low-power FM radio transmitter, and his personal computers with the hopes of touching the lives of deployed service members here.

“I have used this system before while ministering in foreign countries,” said Hall. “This provides service members and civilians at Al Asad, Iraq, another way to fulfill their spiritual needs.”

In a conventional fashion, many service members make their way to chapel services as often as possible, but with the high work tempo needed in Iraq, they are not always able to attend.

“Service members here are very committed to their jobs and mission accomplishment,” said Cmdr. Craig G. Muehler, chaplain, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing. “This will give them the opportunity to listen to religious services or music without taking away from their operational commitments.”

When the initial idea came up for the radio station there was a lot of positive feedback from many people that just didn’t have the time to make it to services.

“We have had people tell us that they think it is a great idea and they look forward to listening,” said Hall, a native of Memphis, Tenn. “This system has the capability to reach more people on this base than the chapel alone.”

While manning the system will be totally dependent on volunteers, learning the software and how to run the system should only take about one week of hands-on training.

“This is a multi-phase program we are trying to estab-



Navy Lt. Dan W. Hall records himself reading a scripture from the Bible to be aired on the new religious programming radio station Aug. 16, at Al Asad, Iraq. Hall, a native of Memphis, Tenn., is the deputy chaplain for Marine Aircraft Group 16 (Reinforced), 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward). He deployed with his own low-power FM transmitter and computers to start a radio station that will broadcast religious music, devotionals, preaching and other programming, giving people here another medium for spiritual health.

lish,” said Hall. “One day, we hope to actually broadcast live chapel services over the air while they are being held.”

Although they are only in the first phase of their plans, the religious personnel aboard this remote air station have their sights set on improving the spiritual life of service

members and civilians.

“We have a variety of religious music, devotionals, preaching and other programming that we are sure will be a tremendous aide to the spiritual health of everyone stationed here,” said Hall.

HMH-466 makes perfect through practice

Story and photos by
Lance Cpl. George J. Papastrat
MCAS Miramar Combat Correspondent

Military pilots and their enlisted crew have an important role in the world today. Air power has become a vital lifeline in today's war – and as the old saying goes, practice makes perfect.

Marines from Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 466, Marine Aircraft Group 16, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, conducted various types of training missions here Aug. 24 and practiced various skills that must be kept sharp.

They participated in helicopter-born extractions as well as dual and single-point lifting exercises.

For extraction training, the Marines were using a scenario where an enemy was in a confined area and two platoons of Marines, who had been fighting them off for weeks, needed to be air lifted out.

Pilots and enlisted crew of HMH-466 provided extraction as well as reconnaissance during this mission.

Three helicopters in the training flew in various formations such as the echelon right and a fingertip formation.

"It is good training," said Cpl. Jeffrey Gibson, a CH-53 mechanic for HMH-466.

Gibson not only works on a CH-53E Super Stallion components, he is also working on becoming a crew chief.

"Prior to doing this job, I was part of a (helicopter) company," said Gibson, who

at one time in his Marine Corps career was the person helicopters were pulling out of combat zones. "I want to be a crew chief and be a part of that."

As the day continued, HMH-466 moved on to its next evolution of training, single and dual-point lifting.

This is where the CH-53E Super Stallion uses its strength to lift loads weighing up to the same weight as the aircraft itself.

An aircraft from the squadron flew to Marine Corps Air Station Camp Pendleton to pick up a Helicopter Support Team, which is a group of Marines responsible for loading and unloading what the helicopter is lifting off the ground.

Lifting blocks of weights greater than 14,000 pounds is no easy task for the pilots, and it is up to the landing team to ensure everything is loaded correctly, explained Sgt. Rodney Tedder, HST commander, 1st Combat Logistics Battalion, 1st Marine Division.

The 150 mph rotor wash, or gusts of wind caused by a helicopter's rotor, is so powerful that HST members must be careful not to be thrown around like a tumble weed, added Tedder.

"How we train here is how we will function in real situations," said Cpl. Ryan Martin, an HST crew member. "Practice makes perfect and that's why we get the job done."



Two CH-53E Super Stallions from Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 466, Marine Aircraft Group 16, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, take off Aug. 24. The crew of these aircraft conducted various training missions to keep themselves mission ready.



A helicopter support team from Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton loads a large cement block to the single point lifting system of the CH-53E Super Stallion Aug. 24. Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 466, Marine Aircraft Group 16, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, participated in various training missions throughout the day, including single and dual-point lifting.

Mt. Soledad honors the fallen

Story and photos by
Lance Cpl. George J. Papastrat
MCAS Miramar Combat Correspondent

LA JOLLA, Calif. – Marines and sailors from Company E (Reinforced), 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines, 1st Marine Division, were recognized at Mount Soledad Veterans Memorial in La Jolla, Calif., Aug. 26, during a plaque unveiling to honor the service members who made the ultimate sacrifice.

The plaque, which has the names of 21 Marines and sailors of Echo 2/4, will be placed on the Mount Soledad war memorial to recognize their great heroism.

The day started with a presentation of the colors by a color guard from Marine Air Control Group 38, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, and the national anthem sung by Navy veteran Al Diaz.

Medal of Honor recipients John P. Baca, John Finn and Robert Modrzewjewski all spoke to the crowd as well.

“Marines are a few, good men,” explained Baca, as the crowd hung on his every word. “Today, we honor those men because of a self-given sacrifice by a few, good men. They were not super heroes. They were ordinary heroes.”

Baca went on to say how every American knows these men are heroes even if they don’t know their names.

Baca was not the only Medal of Honor recipient who had a few words to say during the ceremony.

Jay R. Vargas, a retired Marine colonel, explained how San Diego has once again opened its arms to service members.

“I am proud to be here today,” Vargas said. “It brought back many memories. I spoke on the phone with old friends I served with when I heard about this event. I earned my Medal of Honor in Vietnam doing the same thing these men did in their war. I served in peace time and in combat. I, too, had the honor of serving with 2/4, as did these Marines.”

Lt. Gen. James N. Mattis, commander of the I Marine Expeditionary Force, had remarks about these fallen Marines.

“2/4 did some of the hardest fighting



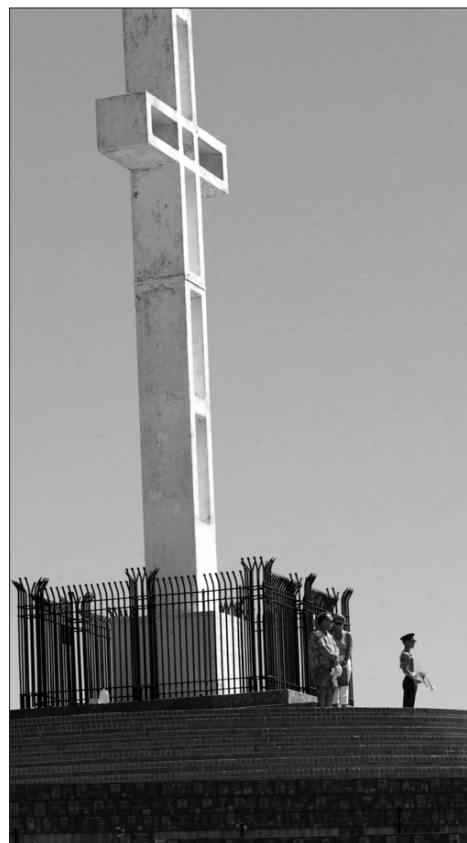
The Mount Soledad Veterans Memorial honored 21 Marines and sailors from Company E (Reinforced), 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines, 1st Marine Division Aug. 27 who lost their lives in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Family members from these service members gathered around as their children, spouses, and relatives were honored.

in decades,” explained Mattis. “They came from all across the country, from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Most of them (are) not even old enough to buy a beer in their home town. Company E will march on through the echoes of these young men.”

Following the breathtaking speech by Mattis, a 21-rifle salute to the fallen Marines of 2/4 was heard. It was the silence in the air that said more than any words could.



A ceremonial rifle detail from Marine Air Control Group 38, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, provided a 21-gun salute Aug. 27 during a memorial ceremony at Mount Soledad Veterans War Memorial.



Cpl. Wesley Irons, a musician with the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, stands on the top of the Mount Soledad Veterans Memorial Aug. 27 along with a family from fallen Marines and sailors of Company E (Reinforced), 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines, 1st Marine Division.

What is Mount Soledad?

Mount Soledad was first used as a Memorial Park in 1954 and was originally dedicated as a Korean War Memorial. It has six concentric walls, holding 3,200 black granite plaques purchased by donors and engraved with the names and photos of war veterans, living and deceased, from all wars and conflicts. There are currently more than 1,800 in place and include members of the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines.

With more than half the 3,200 plaques already installed on the Veterans Memorial Walls, many people still have an opportunity to purchase a granite plaque to honor an eligible veteran who served during time of war or conflict.

A large American flag flies atop the monument alongside a large, 29-foot cement cross. The cross has been making national headlines recently, but not because it is a war memorial.

The Mount Soledad Veterans Memorial has been a target of church-state separationists for the past 17 years.

The Mount Soledad Memorial Association has been appealing a lawsuit requiring them to remove the cross and has finally made headway in the past few weeks.

The once privately owned memorial was signed into government property Aug. 14 as a National Veterans Memorial. Senators agreed by unanimous consent to grant to the federal government ownership of the memorial.

The legislation would sign over ownership of the property to the federal government to preserve it as a national military war memorial, which would be administered by the Department of Defense and allowing them to keep the cross.

The memorial is located in La Jolla, Calif., and is open daily from 7 a.m. until 10 p.m.

To get there from Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, take Highway 163 South to the 52 West, merge on the La Jolla Parkway, turn left onto Hidden Valley, right on to Via Capri, and ending with a right on La Jolla Scenic Drive.

For more information on Mount Soledad, or if you want to honor a veteran, contact the Mount Soledad Memorial Association at 858-459-2314, or visit <http://www.soledad-memorial.com>.



Sgt. Maj. Warren Robinson, sergeant major, Marine Aerial Transport Refueler Squadron 352, Marine Aircraft Group 11, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, taunts his Marines as they try and dunk him in a dunk tank during a field meet Aug. 11, at Mills Park, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar. VMGR-352 also tried their best in dunking their commanding officer and executive officer shortly after their sergeant major.

VMGR-352 uses field meet to boost morale

**Story and photo by
Lance Cpl. Taylor Poulin**

MCAS Miramar Combat Correspondent

Camaraderie, morale and motivation is what drives Marines that are part of a shop or office. These Marines work together every day and must learn how to use their own people skills to understand each other and work together to accomplish their mission.

The in-shop relationships between Marines are set a certain way due to rank and billets. Marines bond in their shop by seeing each other on a day-to-day basis. Marine Aerial Transport Refueler Squadron 352, Marine Aircraft Group 11, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, uses other tactics.

VMGR-352 held a field meet at Mills Park, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Aug. 11 to help build the morale and motivation of the Marines in the squadron.

“This was the first event that we’ve done like this,” said Sgt. Maj. Warren Robinson, sergeant major, VMGR-352. “We want to try and make this an annual thing so our Marines can have a little time off from their mission.”

The Marines kicked off their field meet with Robinson in the dunk tank. After the Marines dunked their sergeant major a few times, it was Lt. Col. Robert P. Cote’s, the squadron’s commanding officer, turn. To motivate the Marines, the CO offered an award for the first three Marines to dunk him

in the tank. The award was a 72-hour weekend. Quickly, the CO was dunked three times.

The Marines also participated in other games such as a relay race, push-up competition, whole-team house building, a “dizzy izzy,” which is a relay race where the Marines would spin around a baseball bat to make themselves dizzy for a 50-meter run, and a tug-of-war.

In between games, the Marines hydrated and mingled among one another, meeting Marines in the squadron that they may have never met.

The Marines connected on a personal level, which they may have never done before, by challenging the different shops in the competitions.

Marines in these shops, most likely, do not see each other on a daily basis. They may meet during squadron physical training, or an all-hands meeting, but other than those types of events, the Marines stay within their own shop.

“Building camaraderie is very important in any squadron,” said Cpl. Bryan T. Goetz, communication navigator technician, VMGR-352. “We are a very competitive, motivated group of Marines so this meet was a nice, friendly competition.”

At the end of the day, the Marines came out of this meet knowing their command, and their fellow Marines a little better.

AROUND THE CORPS



CAMP FOSTER, OKINAWA, Japan – More than 30 Marines with Marine Corps Base Camp Butler recently completed five days of training and qualification to augment the Provost Marshal's Office as an Auxiliary Security Force. The four-day ASF training block was recently improved to increase the Marines' proficiency and readiness as a guard force, according to Sgt. Fernando Delgado, a member of the Provost Marshal's Office's mobile training team.

"We now train ASF to respond to on-base incidents including riots, fights, fires and protests," Delgado said. Previously, ASF training focused primarily on preparing the Marines to augment security forces as gate guards during heightened threat conditions on base."

From left to right - Lance Cpl. Miguel Garcia takes a shot of oleoresin capsicum, a substance similar to pepper spray, during Auxiliary Security Force training at Camp Foster Aug. 8. *Photo by Lance Cpl. Scott M. Biscuiti.* **Center** - Cpl. Louis Lockard (top) pulls Lance Cpl. Michael LaRosa to his side while practicing a personnel search. During the training, more than 30 Camp Foster-based Marines were taught compliance techniques when conducting a personnel search. *Photo by Lance Cpl. Terence L. Yancey.* **Right** - Marines stand in a riot formation, waiting to act. *Photo by Lance Cpl. Terence L. Yancey.*

Announcements



Is this your Chevrolet?

The above vehicle has been marked for impound by the Provost Marshal's Office. To avoid having the vehicle towed, please store it in the Marine Corps Community Services or Traffic Management Office lots. Abandoned vehicles at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar present security risks as well as environmental and safety concerns. PMO attempts to identify and contact vehicle owners of illegally parked, abandoned vehicles prior to tagging the vehicle with a Department of Defense notice. Vehicles are then scheduled for towing three days following the notice. For more information, call 577-4139.

The following vehicles have been impounded and need to be claimed by the owners. Towing fees average \$113, storage fees \$28 daily. For more information call 577-1461.

Vehicle:	License:
Mitsubishi Eclipse	CA#5DAX061
Honda CX	CA#5ERW727
Suzuki GSXR	CA#17E7224
Ford E350	CA#4LNX778
Motorcycle Trailer	VA#CT497383

Miramar Movies

The Bob Hope Theater is located on Elrod Ave.. and will be featuring the following movies. Outside food and drinks are not permitted. For more information, call 577-4143 or log on to www.mccsmiramar.com.

Friday:
6:30 p.m. Monster House (PG)
9:00 p.m. You, Me and Dupree (PG-13)

Saturday:
8:00 a.m. Swap Meet (Live)
1:00 p.m. Little Man (PG-13)
6:30 p.m. My Super Ex-Girlfriend (PG-13)
9:00 p.m. Pirates of the Carribean 2 (PG-13)

Sunday:
1:00 p.m. *Click (PG-13)
6:30 p.m. *Pirates of the Carribean 2 (PG-13)

Wednesday:
6:30 p.m. Lady In The Water (PG-13)

Thursday:
2:00 p.m. Curious George (G)
6:30 p.m. *Little Man (PG-13)

* Indicates the last showing for that film.

Retirement ceremony

There will be a retirement ceremony in honor of Col. Richard W. Schmidt on Sept. 8 at 2 p.m. on the front lawn of 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing Headquarters, building 8402.

The uniform of the day will be desert digital utilities and for civilians will be casual civilian attire.

Religious Services

The Chaplain's Office is located in Building 5632 and coordinates regularly-scheduled worship services. For the location and meeting schedules of religious activities, contact the Chaplain's Office at 577-1333.

Sunday:
9:30 a.m. Protestant worship service
11 a.m. Roman Catholic Eucharist
Wednesday:
7 p.m. Baptist service
Monday-Friday:
11:30 a.m. Roman Catholic daily mass
Jewish:
7 p.m. First Friday of the month MCRD
7:30 p.m. Last Friday at Edson Range Chapel

Miramar Community College

For all personnel enrolling in the fall semester, Miramar Community College and National University courses being offered abroad Marine Corps Air Station Miramar will be held in building 8456.

For more information contact the Education Center at 577-1801.

Thrift Shop

The Marine Corps Air Station Miramar Thrift Shop invites all active-duty Marines, sailors and their eligible family members to shop for incredible bargains. The thrift shop will be open Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Active-duty in uniform may shop 15 minutes prior to opening.

For more information contact, 577-1807.

USO Center Staying Open

Due to the Labor Day holiday, the USO Center located at the San Diego International Airport will stay open from Friday to Saturday to accommodate military members whose flights leave early Saturday morning.

For more information, contact the USO Center at 619-296-3192